



West Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District

506 Western Ave N
www.wotswcd.org

Fergus Falls MN, 56537 Phone: (218) 998-5300

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION TITLE:

Soil Health Specialist

CLOSING DATE:

4:00 p.m. Friday March 29, 2024

POSITION LOCATION:

Fergus Falls, MN

ANTICIPATED START DATE:

May 1st 2024; negotiable

SEND RESUME TO:

West Otter Tail SWCD
Attn: Aaron Larsen
506 Western Ave N
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
Aaron.larsen@wot.mnswcd.org

COMPENSATION:

\$24 – \$40 based on qualifications and experience

Full-time/Permanent

Benefits: PERA (Retirement), Health Insurance Allowance, Annual Leave, Sick Leave, and Holidays

POSITION PURPOSE:

This position works with 5 SWCDs, (Clay, Grant, Traverse, Wilkin, and West Otter Tail) USDA-NRCS, and other partners to provide quality customer service to accelerate stewardship of agricultural lands and to bridge the gap between public/private sectors in Clay, Grant, Traverse, Wilkin, and Otter Tail County, along with the gap between producer and government agencies.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- A minimum two-year degree in agronomy, agricultural systems management, agricultural science, precision agriculture, soil science, or other agriculture related field; or
- Any combination of education and experience that demonstrates the ability to perform the duties of the position.
- An understanding of basic agronomic and agricultural economic principles.
- An understanding of agricultural practices in our region.
- Must possess and maintain a valid driver's license.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills and capable of working with a wide variety of people.
- Must be physically able and willing to work in varied terrain and weather conditions, and capable of lifting 50 lbs.
- Applicants should be able to learn quickly, follow instructions, handle multiple projects, and adapt to changing job duties and/or responsibilities.
- Ability to work independently or as part of a team with district staff and other government agencies and organizations.

- Certified Crop Advisor or the ability to obtain certification within 5 years.
- USDA Job Approval Authority or the ability to obtain.

PRIMARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide ongoing agronomic and conservation technical assistance to landowners with priority on cover crops, crop rotation, nutrient management, minimum tillage, no-till, and other soil health related practices.
- Build strong working relationships with other agronomy professionals in the area.
- Increase program awareness through networking and partnership coordination and leading outreach efforts at farmer-facing events and workshops including public speaking.
- Increase farmer enrollment in conservation programs offered through partners.
- Provide communication recommendations to partners for reaching new farmers and providing visibility for success stories.
- Become knowledgeable and provide referrals to other conservation programs and opportunities to support individual farmer-driven goals.
- Participate and receive additional training to stay on the leading-edge of soil health strategies and practices.
- Maintain records of all work and track the status of each project. Provide timely updates to District Manager and partner SWCDs.
- Work cooperatively with SWCD partners.
- Assist with training SWCD partner staff.
- Accept other duties as assigned by the District Manager.

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by people in this position. They are not to be construed as an exhaustive list of all duties performed by personnel in this position.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

Please send a cover letter, resume, a copy of college transcripts, if applicable, and 3 references to WOT SWCD Attn: Aaron Larsen 506 Western Ave. N. Fergus Falls, MN 56537 by 4:00 p.m. on Friday March 29, 2024. Applications can also be emailed to Aaron.larsen@wot.mnswcd.org

Candidates selected for an interview will be notified by telephone. Additional information may be obtained by calling Aaron Larsen, District Manager at (218) 998-5300.